**Portable solar power plant**

871. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2797 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th December 1985 and state:

(a) whether the operation and other costs of portable solar power plants developed by Indian and Soviet scientists have since been examined; and

(b) if so, what is the possibility of their being put into commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The available operating data in the small unit built laboratory conditions is being analysed. A review meeting of Indian Scientists concerned is being held on the 10th March 1986 followed by a joint meeting of Indian and USSR Scientists to decide on the future course of development.

**Price hike of petroleum products**

872. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN:
SHRI F. M. KHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is a country-wide strong dissatisfaction amongst all the sections of people due to price-hike in kerosene, diesel, petrol and all other petroleum products by Government;

(b) what are the reasons for increasing the prices of petrol and petroleum products;

(c) whether Government propose to bring down the prices of petroleum and its products to the level as it was before the recent increase; and

(d) whether Government propose to further reduce the prices of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (d) The main reasons for increasing prices were the need to raise additional resources for the plan and contain the rapid growth in the consumption of the petroleum products and curtail the value of imports. Taking into account the popular sentiment in this regard, the prices were reduced with effect from 6-2-86.

**Periodical survey for supply of cooking gas**

873. SHRI L. GANESAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any periodical survey is being conducted in order to find out the causes for the delay in supplying cooking gas cylinders to consumers in the country by the distributors in the past;

(b) if so, what are the findings of the survey;

(c) if no, whether Government propose to conduct survey in the near future in order to identify the reasons for delay in supply of cooking gas to consumers;

(d) how many complaints have been received in the past three years about delay in supply of gas cylinders, year-wise and State-wise figures; and

(e) whether there is an increase in the number of complaints and the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) A backlog is supply of LPG refills occurs occasionally in some areas mainly due to inadequate bottling capacity, transportation bottlenecks, industrial relations problems of distributors etc. Year-wise and State-wise details of complaints received from consumers are not maintained. All complaints regarding delay in supply of refills are investigated and urgent remedial action is taken. There has been an increase in the backlog since January, 1986 mainly in the Northern part of the country owing to inadequate bottling at some bottling plants.

**Kahal Gaon Thermal Power Project**

874. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land for the Kahal Gaon Thermal Power Project has been acquired by the Bihar Government and transferred to the project authority;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to the delay in the acquisition of land the work of the Kahal Gaon Thermal Project has not made any progress; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the constraints in the speedy execution of the project whether Government have already given money to the Bihar Government to acquire land for the project; and what steps Government have taken to complete the project in time?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) Of the 3200 acres of land requisitioned by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for the Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Project in Bihar, the State Government have so far handed over an area of 823 acres to the NTPC who have deposited the necessary funds with the State authorities for acquisition of land. Handing over of the bulk of the land during current year will be necessary for timely execution of the project.

Construction activities have already commenced at the Project site and site levelling work for the main plant area has been awarded. The work of developing infrastructural activities at the site is also progressing. The first unit of the project is scheduled to be commissioned in 1990-91.

**Chronic power shortage in Delhi**

875. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi suffers from the gap power shortage and if so, what is the gap between its requirement and the supply in Delhi;

(b) what are the anticipated figures for the annual requirement of power in Delhi and the supply until 1990 and details of the measures being taken, if any, to bridge the gap;

(c) what are the details of the power losses in Delhi because of different factors such as faulty transmission lines and unauthorized usage; and

(d) the measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Govt. to reduce these losses?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE). (a) No, Sir. There is no power shortage in Delhi.

(b) As per 12th Annual Electric Power Survey in Delhi, the peak power requirement of Delhi at the end of 7th Five Year Plan i.e. 1989-90 is expected to be 1373 MW. To meet the increased demand, DESU is installing gas turbine units of 30 MW each and 2 thermal units of 67.5 MW each. National Capital Region